IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-21 (canceled).

22. (New) A method of treating or preventing a disease comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment, a pharmaceutical or nutritional composition comprising a single cell protein material.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the disease is atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease, stenosis, thrombosis, myocardial infarction, stroke or fatty liver.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the disease is hypercholestrolemia.

25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the disease is hyperhomocysteinemia.

26. (New) A cardio protective pharmaceutical or nutritional composition comprising a single cell protein material.

27. (New) A method of changing the fatty acyl profile and for improving the lipid homeostasis of an animal comprising administering to an animal in need of such treatment, a pharmaceutical or nutritional composition comprising a single cell protein material.

28. (New) The method of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein said animal is a human.

29. (New) The method of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein said animal is an agricultural animal selected from the group consisting of gallinaceous birds, bovine, ovine, caprine and porcine.

30. (New) The method of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein said animal is a domestic animal.

31. (New) The method of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein said animal is a fish or shellfish.

32. (New) The method of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein said single-cell protein material is derived from a microbial culture comprising methanotrophic bacteria.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein said microbial culture further comprises one or more species of heterotrophic bacteria.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein said microbial culture comprises a combination of microbes selected from the group consisting of *Methylococcus capsulatus, Ralstonia sp., Brevibacillus agri and Aneurinibacillus sp.*

35. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the methanotrophic bacteria is *Methyloccus capsulatus.*

36. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the microbial culture is produced by continuous fermentation, preferably operated with 2-3% biomass (on a dry weight basis).

37. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the microbial culture after fermentation is subjected to centrifugation in an industrial continuous centrifuge, preferably at 3, 000 rpm, followed by ultrafiltration using membranes having an exclusion size of preferable 100,000 Daltons to produce the single cell protein material.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the single-cell protein material is further subjected to a sterilization step, preferable in a heat exchanger.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the single-cell protein material is further subjected to a homogenization step.

40. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the single-cell protein material is dried by spray drying.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein prior to spray drying the single cell protein material is held in a storage tank at a temperature of less than 20 ^{0}C and a pH of less than about 6.5.

42. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein said microbial culture is a fermentation on hydrocarbon fractions or a natural gas.

43. (New) The nutritional composition of any one of claims 22 or 27, wherein the composition is a food grade product or additive.